



*Founded in 1894 our parish is served by the Mercedarian Friars
Father Michael Rock, O. de M., pastor
Father Scottston Brentwood, O. de M., associate pastor*



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

“Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods.” We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these “gods” because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with “who is God” and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised “more.” But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only “feels” true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God’s kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It’s a choice we all have to make.



Readings for the Week of August 22, 2021

- Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
- Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22
- Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
- Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30
- Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-2



Sunday, August 22

- 8:00am +Jonathan J. Wessell
- 9:30am Fatima Consecration of Russia
- 11:30am +Joan Brunner; and Deceased of the Martinelli and Brunner Family
- 8:00pm Pro Populo

Monday, August 23 St. Rose of Lima

- 8:30am +Fr. Bernardo Marin Grijalbo, O.de M.

Tuesday, August 24 St. Bartholomew

- 8:30am +Edward Baker

Wednesday, August 25 St. Louis

- 8:30am +Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Maurice

Thursday, August 26

- 8:30am Carla Wade

Friday, August 27 St. Monica

- 8:30am +Ursulia Jean-Baptiste

Saturday, August 28 St. Augustine

- 8:30am +Pat Farrington
- 4:00pm +Elizabeth Dolan

Sunday, August 29

- 8:00am Pro Populo
- 9:30am Rev. James W. Mayer, O.de M.
- 11:30am The Mangold Family
- 8:00pm +All Souls in Purgatory

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Many people give their allegiance to something until it asks them to do something challenging or radical. Then, they find themselves rethinking whether they want to be associated with it. The same holds for God. Either we serve God, or we don't. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom, love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, and trust that the Eucharist is in fact Jesus' very Body and Blood. For some, buying into these things may prove too difficult and a return to a life without them is preferred. But truth is truth and it can only be found in God. If we find it hard to accept it from the mouth of Christ, where else can we go to find it? The task before us is to commit to the truth even when it may be easier to pursue something else. Truth is always worth obtaining even when it is difficult. Jesus offers us the truth of life, a life that is found in his own flesh and blood and a life of discipleship.

CHOIR and SCHOLAS
now accepting new members

The new choir season at Our Lady of Lourdes will begin with rehearsals on Thursday, Sept. 6, and we need new singers to join us. Please consider it if you are musically inclined or simply interested, and fear not.

Why do we bother with art music at Mass? For the same reason we have beautiful and elaborate church buildings, art, tabernacles, vestments, and ceremonies: because the sacred action and prayers of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the presence of Our Lord Himself deserve to be housed in a work of art, the highest fruits we can make and offer. As a side effect, singers often become closely connected to the liturgical cycle, texts, and feast days by preparing to serve the liturgy, and reap many spiritual benefits.

Please contact Becky Ostermann, Music Director, at musicdirector@ourladylourdes.org with questions or to set up a meeting for a brief hearing (through which she can establish your voice part and get you ready to join us), or simply come up to the choir loft after any Mass and introduce yourself.

Choir rehearsals are on Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, in the choir loft. The choir sings for various Sunday 11:00 am, Sunday 9:30 am, and feast day Masses from September through June. We need singers in all vocal ranges. Ability to sing in tune and remember a tune is required. If you can read music, all the better, but it is not required.

Women's schola rehearses on Thursday evenings in the choir loft from 6:30 – 7:00 pm. The schola sings the Gregorian chant proper and ordinary for the Sunday 9:30 am Traditional Latin Mass on alternating weekends from September through June. We will teach you how to read the chant square notation. Ability to sing in tune, remember a tune, and blend with other voices is required.

Men's schola rehearses on Saturday mornings, 8:45 am – 9:45 am at the parish office. The schola sings the Gregorian chant proper and ordinary for the Sunday 9:30 am Traditional Latin Mass on alternating weekends from September through June. We will teach you how to read the chant square notation. Ability to sing in tune, remember a tune, and blend with other voices is required.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM

Please remember the souls of the faithfully departed.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Dorothy Hardy, Kurt Mohammed, Patricia Nicholson, Colin Ramberan, Avery Lofton, Eugene Colombaro, Monica Ramberan, Yosan Gabriel, Jenell Sifontis, Cathy Norman, Sabrina Freeman, Leslie Wade, Esmond Family, Scott Stierbeim, Sr. Mary Charles, A.S.S.P., Mecca Taylor, Melissa Becker, Christian Lafty, Lisa Becker, Debbie Everett, Nigel Simon, Donald Graham, Jean Hargraves, Marci Wade, Mary Frances Doran, Maureen Doran Hendrix, Melissa Potts, Cayla Wade, Theresa Gilliam, Suzanne Dupre, Indramattie Somwaru, John Bricker, Alina Simon, Carmelina Desiderio, Graham Family, Buck Murrin, Samantha Johnson, Holly, Damon, and Stephen Anthony, Charles Epps, Ramona Wade, David and Gay Cooper, Lori Cooper, Jack Weber, Dolores M. Hasson, Miguel Tulido, Matthew Tulido

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The Sanctuary Lamp intention is:

For all those who struggle with addictions and those who support them

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We offer to anyone who may wish to 'donate' for the following "Memorials":

For personal intentions; For your beloved dead; and/or For the living

Sanctuary Lamp in the Church - \$15.00 per week

STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE

Our Lady of Lourdes - A Tithing Community

Total Collection for Sunday August 15th: \$9,602.26

Offertory: \$8,347.50

Electronic Giving: \$1,254.76



Mark your calendar!

**Our Parish Picnic will be
 Sunday, September 26th
 MERION TRIBUTE HOUSE
 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.**

Parish Picnic Reservation

Family Name _____

Number of parishioners coming _____

Phone number _____

Email _____



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